



MAXIMS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
VOLUME E1, ISSUE 1

Timeless Truths for Everyday Living





Timeless Truths for Everyday Living

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*Read all the maxims in this handout.
Which ones speak to you?*

E1.1.1 ***Most people see what is, and never see what can be.***

– Albert Einstein, German-born physicist, Nobel Prize-winning formulator of the theory of relativity, and peace advocate (1879-1955)

E1.1.2 ***When life gets you down do you wanna know what you’ve gotta do? Just keep swimming. Just keep swimming, swimming, swimming.***

– Dory from *Finding Nemo*

E1.1.3 ***Admitting that you were wrong is just another way of saying that you are wiser today than yesterday.***

– Unknown

E1.1.4 ***When one helps another, both gain in strength.***

– Ecuadorian proverb

E1.1.5 ***You really can change the world if you care enough.***

– Marian Wright Edelman, African-American lawyer, civil rights activist, and founder of the Children’s Defense Fund (b. 1939)

E1.1.6 ***No matter how much you know, there’s always more to learn.***

– Michael Josephson, American ethicist, author, radio commentator, and founder of CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Josephson Institute (b. 1942)

E1.1.7 ***Actions speak louder than words.***

– American proverb

E1.1.8 ***Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.***

– Margaret Wolfe Hungerford, Irish writer (1855-1897) (from *Molly Bawn*)

E1.1.9 ***Plenty of people miss their share of happiness, not because they never found it, but because they didn’t stop to enjoy it.***

– William Feather, American writer (1889-1981)

E1.1.10 ***Action is the antidote to despair.***

– Joan Baez, American folk singer (b. 1941)



E1.1.11 ***Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.***

– Dr. Seuss, pen name of Theodor Seuss Geisel, American author and illustrator of children's books (1904-1991)

E1.1.12 **Hope for the best and prepare for the worst.**

– Thomas Norton, English poet and politician (1532-1584)

E1.1.13 ***No one has ever become poor by giving.***

– Anne Frank, Jewish girl who kept a diary while hiding from the Nazis during World War II (1929-1945)

E1.1.14 **It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be!**

– Professor Dumbledore, in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

E1.1.15 ***A friend in need is a friend indeed.***

– Quintus Ennius, Roman poet (239-169 B.C.)

E1.1.16 **Everyone has an opportunity to be great because everyone has an opportunity to serve.**

– Martin Luther King, Jr., African-American minister and Nobel Prize-winning leader of the civil rights movement (1929-1968)

E1.1.17 ***If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant.***

– Anne Bradstreet, American poet (c. 1612-1672)

E1.1.18 **Do or do not. There is no try.**

– Yoda, in *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*

E1.1.19 ***Don't judge a book by its cover.***

– English proverb

E1.1.20 **If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. If at first you do succeed, try something harder.**

– Unknown

E1.1.21 ***You can't unscramble eggs.***

– John Pierpont Morgan, American financier (1837-1913)

E1.1.22 **Think forward! Concentrate on who you want to be and where you want to go, not on who you were or where you've been.**

– Michael Josephson, American ethicist, author, radio commentator, and founder of CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Josephson Institute (b. 1942)

E1.1.23 ***Honesty is the best policy.***

– Miguel de Cervantes, Spanish author (1547-1616) (from *Don Quixote*)

E1.1.24 **When spider webs unite they can tie up a lion.**

– Ethiopian proverb

E1.1.25 ***I meant what I said, and I said what I meant. An elephant's faithful, one hundred percent.***

– Dr. Seuss, pen name of Theodor Seuss Geisel, American author and illustrator of children's books (1904-1991) (from *Horton Hatches the Egg*)

E1.1.26 **Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.**

– Aesop, legendary Greek author of fables (6th century B.C.)

E1.1.27 ***We hate some persons because we do not know them, and will not know them because we hate them.***

– Charles Caleb Colton, British clergyman and author (c. 1780-1832)

E1.1.28 **An ant on the move does more than a dozing ox.**

– Mexican proverb

E1.1.29 ***There's a hero in all of us, that keeps us honest, gives us strength, makes us noble, and finally allows us to [live] with pride.***

– Aunt May Parker, in *Spider-Man 2*

E1.1.30 **It takes less time to do a thing right than to explain why you did it wrong.**

– Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet (1807-1882)

GLOSSARY

antidote – cure

beholder – person who looks

despair – misery, gloom

dozing – sleeping

noble – dignified

opportunity – chance

Foundations for Life is a national program of the Josephson Institute and its CHARACTER COUNTS! project.